A. M. D. G.

Province News

PROVINCE OF CALIFORNIA

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ALMA

The Feast of Christ the King was fittingly celebrated by a Solemn High Mass. The celebrant deacon and subdeacon were Fathers McGrorey, Soreghan and Spils.

On October 30, the feast of St. Alphonsus Rodriguez, the community entertained its own Brothers and those of Los Gatos.

At the semester disputations, Mr. Lemieux defended in De Deo Trino, with Messrs. Scheerin and Kropp as objectors; and Mr. Schaechtel defended De Deo Creante against the objections of Messrs. Preston and O'Sullivan.

Fathers McFadden and McCummiskey gave practical talks on retreat work to the members of the Spiritual Exercises Seminar.

On November 6, V. R. Fr. Fitzgerald paid a visit to Alma and had a short talk with each of the Oregon theologians.

In November Father Zeman was called home by the sickness of his father, and Mr. Malloy by that of his mother.

Father Joseph Lucas of the New York Province, after some ten years on the Philippine Mission, has returned to his own Province for a few months. He gave the theologians a very helpful talk on his experiences and on the dangers confronting a priest.

The San Jose Mercury for November 25 carried the notice that the new Santa Cruz Highway through the theologate property has been approved, and that work will be under way by next Fall. The road will go through the Los Gatos Canyon as far as "The Cats", then it will leave the canyon and strike over the hills to the west of it. It comes out near the famous Madrone tree on the theolate property. It passes between the Rose Garden and the so-called Village. In doing this it cuts right through the center of the large house next to the garden.

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY

On November 1, Father Duce delivered an address at the dedication of the St. Robert Bellarmine School in Burbank, very likely the first parochial school dedicated to St. Robert.

The pastor, Rev. C. M. Keating, is a very devoted client of the Saint as he recognizes in him the one who formulated the principles upon which our own American democracy is founded. He has embodied his idea in the formation of the Bellarmine-Jefferson Guard, composed of a scout organization which comprises all the pupils of the school.

The dedication of the school was preceded by a Mass at which the Archbishop-Elect assisted, followed by the blessing of the school and a very interesting program in the school-yard, at which the newly formed Guard paraded, had their flag blessed by the Archbishop, with pledges of allegiance, etc.

At the conclusion of the address by Father Duce, the President of Loyola University, one of the Guard presented him with a beautiful silk American Flag with the request that it be sent to Father General to stand by the tomb of St. Robert Bellarmine.

The Flag was sent to V. R. Fr. Maher, the American Assistant, for presentation to V. R. Fr. General.

LOYOLA HIGH

At the request of the pastor and parish, Father Hanlon gave the Forty Hours in his boyhood parish of Our Lady of Loretto.

For two months Father Henry substituted for the assistant pastor at Anaheim, and for the chaplains of St. Catherine's Military Academy and Marywood High School. He is to give the retreat to the Diocesan Nurses and to the Little Sisters of the Poor.

A lecture on International Peace was delivered by Father Flynn to the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. He lectued on "Human Relations in an American Community" to the Gold Cross Mothers and later to the Loyola Guild.

Father Rector gave a retreat to the old people at the Little Sisters of the Poor. Just at the time he was exerting the most effort, he noticed how some leaned back or said their rosaries, and how others slept. A different story is told by the Sisters who said that the old folks were delighted by the retreat.

Father Charles Leahy is conducting a study club on Communism for the Scholastics.

After delivering a lecure on Communism and the California Strikes, to a group of Society Ladies in Pasadena, he was surprised to receive checks to be distributed to the needy families in San Pedro.

The Sodality is sending a group of entertainers to the Catechitcal Centers, to attract children to catechism classes.

To overcome interracial prejudice, two committees are working for the negroes.

The Sodality has started a campaign of dropping Catholic papers on streetcars and in stations.

This is the fourth year that Father Madden has been giving a monthly retreat to business women.

LOS GATOS

On November 13, the feast of St. Stanislaus, Brothers Henry Fikerment and Eugene Fahy pronounced the first vows of the Scholastics. Brother Fikerment is the first recruit to the Province from our Mission in China.

Because the Novices were making the Long Retreat, the Brothers celebrated the feast of St. Alphonsus Rodriguez at Alma.

Shortly before the beginning of the Long Retreat, Coadjutor Brothers Hogan and Lewis received their cassocks. Brother Thunder received his on the feast of All Saints.

The Long Retreat ended on November 25. During that retreat with the aid of a borrowed dump truck, the novices took away a large piece of the hillside from the landslide corner in the cloister; they also widened the Della Strada path.

On November 20, Father Lucas of the Maryland-New York Province, recently returned from the Philippine Mission for a short time, gave a most interesting and inspiring talk to the Juniors. He graphically described our work among the different tribes of natives, and showed the great difficulties which must be overcome, especially those from Protestant missioners.

During the past year extensive work has been accomplished in increasing the water supply from the property. Under the direction of Father Charles Walsh, the Juniors have opened and enlarged many old or abandoned springs, and have developed several new sources.

Work has begun on the proposed St. Ignatius Shrine. A garden site is being constructed for it, where the old "Mexican House" stood many years until its recent demolishment.

The Roothan Circle, whose end in the increasing of knowledge and practice of the devotion to the Sacred Heart, has been meeting regularly during the past several months, when addresses have been given by various Juniors.

SAN FRANCISCO

A monster card party was held in November at the University for the benefit of our Catholic missionaries in China. Mrs. Paul O'Brien was the inspirer of the event. Chinese girls in their native costumes assisted in serving refreshments.

The Don Band attired in their Spanish Don uniforms, played in the parade for the opening of the Bay Bridge celebration. All along the line of march they received noteworthy applause.

Father Carlo Rossi after an invitation to do so, has joined the Pi Mu Iota, the Italian Honor Society at the University of California.

The high school sodality gave an entertainment, the admission charge being food or articles for the poor. Quite an amount of material was received for later distribution to the needy.

There are about 5000 plants which were propagated by Father Rossi and Mr. Schaechtel at Alma, for the beautification of the University campus. A new hot house is being erected in the rear of the Faculty Building. The color of the new structure will conform to that of the college buildings.

The authorities of the high school are in receipt of a very commendatory letter from the Superintendent of Public schools, regarding the good behavior

of our students, particularly of those who participated in the crew races at Yacht Harbor. He commended their sportsmanship, conduct and good example. He promised them an honorable mention at the meeting of the Principals.

Father Malaise gave the triduum to the students of Notre Dame High, San Jose.

A Father Semeria Room is being outfitted and furnished in the college building, in honor of Father Semeria, a recently deceased Spiritual Father of the Students.

The U. S. F. Alumni Banquet, held in November at the Palace Hotel, met with the unqualified approval of all present.

Dr. Joseph Kuntz of the Carnegie Foundation lecture group on International Relations, addressed the students on the background of the Spanish situation.

SANTA CLARA

Dr. A. H. Giannini made a present of 307 volumes of Greek and Latin classics, the Loeb Classical Library, in memory of Father Henry Woods, his former teacher and abiding friend. The set has been placed in the reading room of the Varsi Library.

BELLARMINE PREP

On Navy Day, October 27, Commander H. H. Hallin, of the 5th Fleet Division, Naval Reserves, explained the organization of the United States Navy to the students.

Herbert Stone, a sophomore, brought the school some fine publicity, when the papers carried the story of his stopping a team of runaway horses on a highway. In a truck which he was driving, he caught up with them and gradually edged them off the road, until the wagon tongue jabbed into a soft bank and held the horses.

On the Feast of Christ the King, 20 sodalists pledged themselves in a simple and inspiring ceremony, as Knights of the Blessed Sacrament.

The floors of the rooms in the community house have been stained and varnished.

Phil O'Hearn, formerly of Brophy, a quondam painter and wall decorator, is residing at the school, where he is now renovating the students' chapel and sacristy. He has already beautified Our Lady's statue in the garden shrine and given it a marble-like appearance.

An old man named Hennessy who has been renovating mattresses for several of the houses, was working at Bellarmine in November. He was seen on the grounds one day for the last time, next day he was found dead in the room given him at the school.

CHINA

Father Meng and Messrs. Li and Mi, formely known as Father Lipman and Messrs. Clifford and Meagher, are studying Chinese at the Catholic Mission, Anhwei, Anking, where school began about October 1. Mr. Pao (Pope) is also in Anhwei, studying Chinese for the second year. He is not in the same house as the others, for his address reads: Anhwei, Kweichih, Yinkiahwei.

V.R.Fr. Provincial did not enjoy his trip across the Pacific, as he was very sick indeed. He planned making his retreat en route, but was unable to make it. He landed in Shanghai on October 19, when he was met by V.R.Fr. Lefebvre, Fathers McGreal and Lennon, and Brother Finnegan. Just as he was about to get off the General Lee, a truck load of armed Japanese marines dashed up to occupy the wharf. It was a rather startling welcome. The States Line's boats dock at the O. S. K. (Japanese line) wharf, which like the rest of Hongkew is well guarded by armed Japanese marines. It was time for the change of guard, when the night watch went off duty.

V.R.Fr. Provincial has had a busy time seeing all the Catholic activities of Shanghai and Zikawei. On the feast of Christ the King, he was celebrant at a Solemn High Mass in Father Lennon's church; on All Saints he officiated at Zikawei.

On November 2, Father Lennon accompanied Father Provincial to Nanking, a trip of some six hours by railroad.

Father Kearney is making slow progress in Nanking. He applied for building permits, and for answer received a bill for almost $4000 to help defray the expense incurred in building the big road that runs past our place. He has paid up, and expected an early answer to his application. He plans to have Father Provincial dig the first shovelful of earth for the new building, before the time to return to America. Four university students are boarding with Father Kearney, they and other pupils keep Father busy.

VARIA

In the third week of November Father Joseph Crowley gave a retreat at El Retiro to 19 of the diocesan clergy. These are the priests who were unable to make the retreat in the summer time. One of the retreatants was a Maryknoll Father, and another a priest from the Fresno diocese.

There are 162 children in the school at Phoenix where the children are most happy over the Sisters. More children would come, if provision could be made for them.

Father Grisez is very much improved and will be allowed to return to San Jose early in December.

The Society's College at Spring Hill is celebrating a centenary this year, as a result the Alabama automobile licenses for 1937 bear Spring Hill's Purple and White colors to honor the 100th anniversary of the granting of a state charter to the college. The college was allowed to choose its own license plates. One of these is 100-C, to denote the centenary of the charter. The other is 1936, which means 1-9-36, January 9, 1936, the centenary day of the granting of the state charter.

On the day that His Eminence, Cardinal Pacelli, blessed the San Francisco Bay Bridge, and thus completed the Camino Real which Junipero Serra started some 150 years earlier, he was given a reception at Menlo by Archbishop Mitty and the clergy. To be different from a Bishop he granted the Seminarians two holidays, and he made them wildly enthusiastic by making it three holidays, when he was told he should be different from an ordinary Cardinal. Some 370 priests and 100 seminarians attended the reception at the diocesan seminary on this happy occasion.

FATHER NICHOLAS BELL

About a year ago Father Bell had a break-down and was sent to St. Louis. Father Edward Whelan kindly had him brought to Loyola High last summer, when Father Bell did nicely for a while. Later Father Bell was sent to Norwalk, some 25 miles outside of Los Angeles. On November 13 his tray was brought at noon time and he sat down to it. When time came to remove the tray, he was found dead beside it. He died of an intestinal hemorrhage.

A man of brilliant attainments, he taught splendidly in his scholastic days and early priesthood. As Prefect of Studies in Los Angeles, he built up the scholastic standing of the schools, and worked up a very numeous student body in the high school. Possibly the strain of running high school, college and law school was too much for him; it may be this which started the breakdown which eventually came.

1882 —May 5, born in S. F.
1895 —June 11, entered Los Gatos.
1895-97—Novice, Los Gatos.
1897-01—Junior, Los Gatos.
1901-04—Philosophy, Spokane.
1904-08—Teacher, San Francisco.
1908-10—Teacher, Gongaza, Spokane.
1910-14—Theology, Woodstock.
1914-15—Pf. of Disc., S. Francisco.
1915-16—Tertian, Cleveland, Ohio.
1916-20—Teacher, Santa Clara.
1920-21—Teacher, Seattle.
1921-26—Pf. of Stud., Los Angeles.
1926-28—Teacher, San Francisco.
1928-29—Teacher, Loyola University.
1929-30—Teacher, San Francisco.
1930-31—Cur.val., San Francisco.
1931-35—Teacher, San Francisco.
1936-37—Cur. val.
1937 —Nov. 13, died Norwalk, Cal.

FATHER JOSEPH TOMKIN

Father Tomkin was sent from Holy Cross, Alaska, to Fairbanks, because of the enfeebled condition of his health. He gave the Sisters a retreat, and was just able to finish it, Bishop Crimont writes:

"On Sunday morning, October 4, I reached the Sisters' chapel while the clock was striking 6, the hour at which Father Tomkin was used to say Mass. He was neither at the altar nor in the sacristy.

"I waited because I was to say Mass after him. All thought that perhaps he had overslept, as he was more than ordinarily tired. A man from the hospital was sent to the parochial residence to find out what had happened. The cold body of the Father was lying on its side on the floor of the room.

"He must have died about 10 o'clock Saturday night, October 3, the 65th anniversary of his birth."

DEATHS IN THE ASSISTANCY

Fr. Michael Cronin, Oct. 31, New Or.
Fr. Chas. L. O'Brien, Oct. 31, Kingston, Can.
Fr. Denis Sullivan, Nov. 1, Seattle.
Fr. Jos. Ziegler, Nov. 5, New York.
Fr. Nich. Bell, Nov. 15, Norwalk, Cal.

DEATHS OF RELATIVES

Joseph, brother of Mr. James V. O'Sullivan.